

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Final Office Action dated December 5, 2003. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the present patent application is respectfully requested.

1. Remarks

Claims 1 and 13 are amended to incorporate the features of claim 25 respectively without introducing any new matter so as to more clearly define the present invention, describe the characteristics, objects and efficacy of the present invention and distinguish same from the prior art of record as applied by the Examiner in rejecting some of the original claims. Newly added dependent claims 26-32 have been added to more clearly define the features of the present invention and are similar to claims 2-8. All of the amendments are supported by the specification of the present invention. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claim 1 and claim 13.

The Examiner objected to claim 25 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that claim 25 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 13 to include the essential features of claim 25. Claim 25 has been cancelled. Amended claims 1 and 13 are now in condition for allowance. Claims 2-8 and 11-12 are also allowable owing to their dependency from newly amended independent claims 1 and 13.

Newly added claims 26-32 are presented for defining another aspect of the present invention and are also allowable owing to their dependency from previously allowed claim 10. Claim 9 has also been previously allowed.

Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is earnestly solicited at an early date.

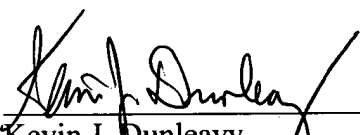
Application Serial No.: 09/817,912
Amendment dated: February 3, 2004
Reply to Office Action of: December 5, 2003

2. Conclusion

Applicant has made an earnest effort to place this application in condition for allowance. If the Examiner feels that a telephone interview would expedite prosecution of this patent application, he is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned at 215-599-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 3, 2003



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